

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been amended as shown in the enclosed Replacement Abstract to better conform to U.S. practice.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 6-9 and 20-22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, on page 10 of the Office Action, claim 22 is rejected based on Martini and Rune, where Rune is not of record. It is believed that the rejection of claim 22 is not intended and thus not addressed herein, particularly since Rune is not of record. Clarification is respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 6-9 and 20-22 contains allowable subject matter. By means of the present amendment, claims 6-8 and 20-21 have been written in independent form. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 6-8 and 20-21, as well as claim 9 which depends from claim 8, are in allowable form, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-5 and 10-19 were rejected under

35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,675,015 B1 (Martini) in view of an article entitled "IP Services over Bluetooth: Leading the Way to a New Mobility" by Albrecht et. al. (Albrecht). Further, claims 3 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Martini in view of Albrecht, and further in view of an article entitled "The Bluetooth Radio System" by Haarsten et. al. (Haarsten).

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, however, independent claims 1 and 17 have been amended, and new claim 23 has been added for clarification. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5, 10-19 and 23 are patentable over Martini, Albrecht and Haarsten for at least the following reasons.

Martini discloses an apparatus and method for facilitating handover, where a base station 18 (FIG 1) includes a dedicated first transmitter 54 for call setup that performs regular page and inquiry scans, and additional transmitters 62 dedicated for data transmission, after connection with a mobile device has been setup and established using the first transmitter 54. (See column 6, lines 39-58)

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claims 1 and 17, requires first beacon is arranged to

broadcast inquiry messages in response to which a portable device provides its identifier. Once a portable device identifier is received, it is transmitted by the first beacon to a second beacon. The second beacon now performs service interaction with the portable device, where the service interaction includes communication setup between the second beacon and the portable device.

Thus, the first beacon broadcast inquiry messages to obtain portable device identifiers, and the second beacon communicated with the identified portable devices including call setup therewith. Martini does not teach or suggest two such beacons; rather Martini teaches a first transmitter dedicated for call setup and additional transmitters dedicated for data transmission. The additional Martini transmitters are not involved at all with call setup, which is in contradistinction with the second beacon of the present invention which performs communication setup, as recited in independent claims 1 and 17. The two particular beacons recited in independent claims 1 and 17 are nowhere taught or suggested in Martini.

Albright is cited to teach a master that sends either a page or inquiry message and does not remedy the deficiencies in Martini.

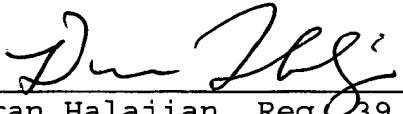
Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 17 and 23 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-5, 10-16 and 18-19 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 17.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any informalities remain, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned in order to expedite allowance.

Please charge any fee deficiencies and credit any overpayments  
to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

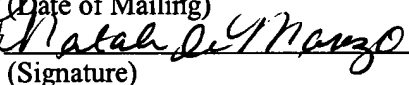
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June 30, 2004

Enclosure: Replacement Abstract

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